

CLASS SPECIFICATION
County of Fairfax, Virginia

CLASS: 5369

TITLE: FIRE INSPECTOR II

GRADE: S-20

DEFINITION:

Under general supervision, performs a variety of difficult and specialized building and fire protection equipment and systems inspections involving the exercise of independent judgment and initiative; provides technical advisory services to the general public, and performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:

The Fire Inspector II is distinguished from the Fire Inspector I in that the Fire Inspector II is considered full-performance whereas the Fire Inspector I is the entry level. The Fire Inspector II is distinguished from the Fire Inspector III in that the Fire Inspector II performs difficult and specialized inspection whereas the Fire Inspector III supervises a unit of inspectors assigned to a particular function.

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:

Inspects job sites for compliance with all applicable codes and standards pertaining to the installation, testing, and inspection of fire protection equipment and systems, and witnesses the required performance tests conducted by the installing contractor;

Inspects buildings and structures to ensure compliance with the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code (VSFPC), Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code (VUSBC) and associated Fairfax County amendments;

Investigates and troubleshoots problems related to fire protection equipment and systems as they occur in buildings;

Inspects all types of construction, uses and occupancies for compliance with applicable codes;

May document or assess structural damage of failure due to fire, weather or accident, and documents each incident with written reports, pictures, etc., as necessary;

Inspects new construction to ensure that construction is in compliance with the VSFPC, VUSBC, other applicable codes, and insures that construction is completed in accordance with the approved plans;

Investigates complaints against builders or property owners, evaluates their validity, and recommends corrective action when necessary;

Receives/responds to inquiries from citizens, contractors, owners/developers regarding fire protection equipment and system requirements, installation status, permitting requirements, code/standards, or fire inspections, etc.;

Enters the results of each inspection into a hand-held computer terminal or maintains complete records of inspections and test results of performance testing of fire protection equipment and systems;

When an investigation or inspection uncovers code violations or work that is not approved, identifies the sections of the regulations being violated, issues written code violation notices to developer, owner(s) or appropriate persons, and takes necessary

action to ensure violations are corrected (e.g., testifies to the facts in court, recommends “shut down” of the protect, and or issues summons or assists in securing arrest warrants); Examines and analyzes plans and specifications for compliance with code requirements and, when plans have been certified as having met all the requirements, issues permits; Reviews requests for inspections, coordinates inspections with other County agencies (i.e., DPW&ES, other sections of the Fire and Rescue Department, Department of Zoning, or Health Department)
Interprets applicable codes and model standards;
Attends meetings and conferences;
Prepares reports and composes correspondence;
Signs-off on demonstrated abilities of Fire Inspector Is who are completing their on-the-job training for Fire Inspector 1031 as required by the Department of Fire Programs.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of fire protection equipment and systems;
Knowledge of fire chemistry and behavior, fire prevention fundamentals, general fire safety, physical properties of flammable and combustible solids/liquids/gases, and fundamentals of fire suppression;
Knowledge of the theory and practice of model codes and standards;
Knowledge of the materials and practices used in building construction;
Knowledge of investigatory practices and techniques;
Ability to read and interpret plans, specifications, and engineering drawings;
Ability to identify situations that may impact the health, welfare, or safety of the public and take appropriate remedial actions;
Ability to conduct inspections of buildings and facilities to ensure code compliance;
Ability to work with people and obtain their cooperation, even in difficult situations;
Ability to prepare clear and factual reports;
Ability to use sound judgment in making independent decisions.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:

Any combination of education, experience, and training equivalent to the following:
High school graduation or G.E.D. issued by a state department of education; PLUS
One year commensurate experience as a Fire Inspector I.

CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:

Certification in Civilian Entry from the Virginia Department of Fire Programs;
Certification in Hazardous Materials Awareness from the Virginia Department of Fire Programs;
Certification as a Fire Inspector I/II (NFPA 1031);
Certification from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development Building Code Academy;
Possession of a valid Motor Vehicle Driver’s License is required for all positions in this class.

ESTABLISHED: May 18, 2005